

# **Next Town Assembly**

**Village of Arden  
Monday, March 24, 1997  
7:30 p.m.  
Arden Gild Hall**

## **AGENDA**

- Introduction of New Castle County Police liason officer, Lynda M. Barr
- A vote on sending letter of concern to the Brandywine School District
- Election of town committees and officers
- 3-year budget forecast
- Sense of meeting on possible solutions for parking at events around the Arden Green
- Standing committee reports

**All are welcome.**

Please note: Those attending town meeting are eligible to vote after six consecutive months as an Arden resident prior to the meeting and are 18 years old or older.

# January 22, 1997 Town Assembly for the Village of Arden Gild Hall • Arden, Delaware

**Present:**

Ken Lipstein  
Bob Weiner (NV)  
Peter A. Renzetti  
David Clarke (NV)  
Jennifer Borders  
Leon Tanzer  
Mark Taylor  
Ruth Bean  
Betty DeCosmo  
Wayne A. Smith (NV)  
Dorinda Dove  
Walter Broadbent  
Liz Broadbent  
Marc Schule  
Deborah Laraway  
Elizabeth Varley  
Darren Yearsley  
Margot Al-Taweel  
Stephen Harcourt  
Chris Demsey  
Jean K. Brachman

Bernie Brachman  
Hugh Roberts  
Naomi Clark  
Amy Hill (NV)  
Gene Shaw  
Rank Akutowitz  
Natalie Hubbard  
Carl Falco  
Liz. Resko  
Tim Colgan  
Larry C. Walker  
Steven Arm  
Rachel Grier  
M.B. Whipple  
Marianne Cinaglia  
James Schwaber  
Aaron Hamburger  
Lynda Kolski  
Beverly A. Barnett  
Marijke Wiegman  
John Reilly  
Larry Strange

Leo Faucette  
Gail Rinehart  
Jim Parks (NV)  
Rae F. Gerstine  
Lou Bean  
Sadie Somerville  
Betty O'Regan  
Dennis O'Regan  
Linda Eaton  
Sharon Kleban  
Lew Aumack  
Bill Press  
Alton Dahl  
Edward Rohrbach  
Jan Westerhouse  
Bob Wynn  
Mike Curtis  
Dane Miller  
Rich Bloom  
Judy Butler  
Connee Wright McKinney

1. **Assembly Chairperson:** Bill Press, Town Assembly Chairperson, established that there was a quorum. He appealed to those present to join in the work of the Centennial Committee. Call him if you would like to be involved.
2. **Agenda Clarification:** Ruth Bean notified us that Bea Jaffe and Mildred Taylor had recently passed away.
3. **Communications:** None.
4. **Guests:** Wayne Smith, our state representative, thanked those who supported his re-election. He updated us on the completion of the Harvey Road crosswalk test, his awareness of our inquiry into Landmark status, and DelDOT construction runoff concerns. He is available to address constituent concerns every Tuesday, from 7:00 am-7:30 am at the Brew-ha-ha (Branmar Plaza).  
  
Peter Renzetti introduced Bob Weiner, newly elected County Councilman. Mr. Weiner spoke to us about his background before elected to New Castle County Council: lived in Arden and has been active in Council of Civic Organizations of Brandywine Hundred (CCOBH). He is committed to refusing campaign money from developers. He is regularly available to address concerns of the community every Tuesday from 7:30 am at the Brew-ha-ha.
5. **Committee Nominations:** Bill Press asked committees to include nominations in their report.
6. **Approval of January Town Minutes:** Vote was in favor to approve.
7. **Trustees Report:** See following "Receipts and Expenditures."

1-The Village school and property taxes in the amount of \$196,120.62 were paid at the end of September. This includes a check for \$187,622.32 to New Castle County and \$8498.30 in senior citizen and disability rebates.

2-The financial balances on December 31, 1996, as reported in the financial quarterly attached to this document, are \$63,876.84 in the bank and \$65,000 in investments for a total fiscal position of \$128,876.84.

*Trustees' Report continued*

3-The 1997-98 Land Rent bills, due by March 25, are in the process of being prepared and will be mailed in February.

4- We held another trustee/directors meeting between the three Ardens on January 14. This continues to prove to be a beneficial meeting where information sharing on general issues, in discussions relating to various internal operating processes and procedures, and possible community-wide approached to external factors call be mulled. Specific topics covered were: 1) Short and long-term goals of the meetings, 2) How revisions to the New Castle County Zoning Code may impact the character and life of our villages. As this is still in process by the county, no specific determinations can be made at this time, 3) Possible "defense" actions/positions that can be useful in responding to encroachments of our boundaries from outside landholders.

5-There will be a town party on Sunday, March 9 in the upper Gild Hall from 3 p.m.-5 p.m. It is an adults only "do" with baby-sitting being available in the Buzz Ware Village Center, the rate being \$1.00 per hour per child. The purpose of the party is, in part, "community unity" as there has been a fairly large number of lease transfers within our village over the past year. Additionally, this "shindig" will create an opportunity for people to become familiar with the "workings" of the town by way of social interaction which, hopefully, will generate increased interest by some to become active in the Town Assembly structure of our Village. Marianne is coordinating these efforts, so, if you are interested in helping, see her.

6-Our Chancery Court action against the developers of Buckingham Greene is moving along, but remains unresolved. In late August, we contracted with Leggette, Brashears, and Graham, a nationally-recognized engineering firm that specialized in ground water and environmental services, who arrived in September to assess the problem and develop solutions to the erosion issues. This document was presented to the builder's lawyer at the end of November. To date, we have not had a response to this proposal. In early December, we received word that the county was close to signing off on the issue. We responded to DNREC, updating them and urging them not to approve such an action. Most recently we received word that the builder has retained the services of a new lawyer, who promptly proceeded to file for a dismissal of the lawsuit. Roger Akin, our lawyer, has filed the appropriate papers to counter this.

7-As you may have heard, we received a letter from our accountant in late December, indicating that it would be important for us to update our office methods and procedures, bringing in the technological systems necessary to generate the various financial statements in a manner consistent with current business and governmental practices. In essence, we need to move from a manual to a automated mode of operation. The ultimate upshot of this is that Rae, who has carried out these responsibilities for 30 years in miraculous form, is retiring, leaving the trustees in the position of looking for a new administrative assistant. Our intent is, that once we have contracted with someone, to make a gradual transition of responsibilities over the coming month, with Rae acting as a consultant. Rae has been extremely gracious about this situation, and we can not thank her enough for her dedication and service to the trustees and to the village of long-term.

Given this development, and the fact that the actual position and specific duties of the Town Assembly Treasurer are not clearly delineated in the Act to Reincorporate, I believe that Bill Press is planning to hold some meetings throughout the spring to look at the scope of various duties that can or should be retained by the position of Village Treasurer.

8-Finally, it is with true sadness that I offer to you the following letter, dated December 1996 (see Senior Trustee Resigns").



December, 1996

Dear Fellow Villagers:

On March 18, 1976 you did me the honor of electing me a Trustee by the vote of 226 to 90. I have tried to serve you well for 20 years. However, since I am now 73 years old, it is time for Arden to reach into the future with a new Trustee. I am, therefore, tendering my resignation, effective the date that the next trustee is elected. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve the Village in this capacity.

Thank you for the support you have given to me throughout the years -

Very truly yours,



Shaul Gladstone  
Senior Trustee

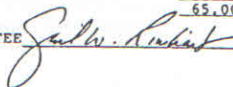
**Comments by G. Rinehart:** The criteria for Trustee nomination: long-term connection to Arden, Involvement in the community, and serve for life.

## Receipts

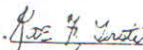
VILLAGE OF ARDEN  
RECEIPTS & BANK BALANCES - 3/25/96 TO 12/31/96  
PRESENTED TO TOWN MEETING ON 1/27/97

BALANCE IN BANK MARCH 25, 1996	\$207,658.73
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>	
GRANTS	600.00
INTEREST & DIVIDENDS	11,646.06
LAND RENT:	
FISCAL YEARS, PAST	445.65
FISCAL YEARS, PRESENT	107,875.36
FISCAL YEARS, FUTURE	190.05
LATE PAYMENT INTEREST	
MEADOW LANE RENT	262.12
MEMORIAL GARDEN DONATIONS	2,598.00
MISCELLANEOUS	3,088.80
RIGHTS OF WAY	
CABLE TV	0.00
ROADS	0.00
SUBTOTAL	126,706.04
INVESTMENTS, REDEEMED	+275,000.00
INVESTMENTS, NEW	-250,000.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	151,706.04
RECEIPTS & STARTING BANK BALANCE	359,364.77
EXPENDITURES AGAINST BUDGET	-295,487.93
BALANCE IN BANK AS OF 12/31/96	63,876.84
<b>INVESTMENT POSITION:</b>	
ARDEN BUILDING & LOAN	15,000.00
BANK INSTRUMENTS	50,000.00
OTHER	0.00
TOTAL	65,000.00

SIGNED: TRUSTEE



; ADMIN. ASS'T.



## Expenditures

VILLAGE OF ARDEN  
EXPENDITURES AGAINST BUDGET - 3/25/96 TO 12/31/96  
PRESENTED TO TOWN MEETING ON 1/27/97

BUDGET ITEM	BUDGETED AMOUNT	EXPENDITURES F.Y TO DATE	EXPENDITURES SINCE LAST REPORT
<u>COMMITTEES:</u>			
ARCHIVES	3,280	2,695.55	700.00
BUZZ WARE VILLAGE CENTER	2,125	1,002.79	531.64
<u>CIVIC:</u>			
COMMONS & FORESTS	13,000	13,634.57(a)	5,696.16
GRANTS	6,000	6,000.00	6,000.00
ROADS	14,000	4,666.32	1,401.75
SPECIAL CLEAN-UP	2,000	1,627.16	0.00
TRASH COLLECTION	32,000	23,659.92	11,040.09
COMMUNITY PLANNING	200	0.00	0.00
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE	700	652.50	652.50
PLAYGROUND	1,300	1,001.38	324.00
REGISTRATION	3,000	1,704.10	1,127.48
<u>SAFETY:</u>			
GENERAL	900	193.68	86.68
TOWN WATCH COORDINATOR	2,172	1,629.00	724.00
TRAFFIC LIGHT	600	0.00	0.00
WELCOME HITHER	250	0.00	0.00
<u>SALARIES</u>			
ASSEMBLY SECRETARY	4,548	3,411.00	1,516.00
ASSEMBLY TREASURER	1,896	1,422.00	632.00
<u>OTHER LINE ITEMS:</u>			
CONTINGENCIES	2,000	0.00	0.00
<u>DONATION:</u>			
ACRA	700	700.00	0.00
ARDEN LIBRARY	400	400.00	0.00
ARDEN PAGE	450	450.00	0.00
FIRE COMPANIES	850	850.00	0.00
GILD HALL RENTAL	650	650.00	0.00
<u>TAXES:</u>			
NEW CASTLE COUNTY PROP.	54,300	52,261.76	51,971.97
SCHOOL	148,500	144,935.66	144,148.66
TELEPHONE	360	144.48	64.31
<u>ADMINISTRATIVE:</u>			
AUDITING	3,000	2,900.00	0.00
INSURANCE	6,300	4,609.00	0.00
LEGAL	1,000	11,500.00(b)	3,000.00
OFFICE RENT	2,100	1,647.00	732.00
MISCELLANEOUS	1,500	3,070.05	1,708.77(c)
PAYROLL TAXES	1,600	2,398.42	1,082.88
SALARY, ADMIN. ASST.	6,480	4,860.00	2,160.00
SALARY, SECRETARY	2,256	1,692.00	752.00
LESS ACCRUED TAXES		- (880.41)	- (396.56)
TOTAL	\$320,417	\$295,487.93	\$235,656.33

(NOTE: PERIOD COVERED IS FROM FIRST DAY OF FISCAL YEAR TO LAST DAY OF THE MONTH PRECEDING THE APPLICABLE TOWN MEETING.)

SIGNED: TRUSTEE James R. P. [Signature]; ADMIN. ASS'T. Joe M. [Signature]  
(a) Includes \$280.00 for Americo p Project and \$1500+ for survey for Sherwood Forest lin  
(b) Overexpenditure on legal fees is a direct result of the Buckingham Green lawsuit.

8. **Archives Committee:** Nominees are Liz Resko, Alan Kleban, Steve Tanzer, incumbents running again are Linda Eaton, Jean Brachman, and Mark Taylor.

Archives made a tremendous amount of progress this quarter with the highlight being the wonderful slide presentation given by George Thomas on the architecture of Will Price. Over 100 people attended including the Landmark Status "Brain Trust", architects Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown and two visitors from Rose Valley, one of whom was related to Will Price, the other to Frank Furness. Our thanks to the Georgist Gild who cosponsored this event with us and to Bev Barnett and Community Planning who hosted our Landmark Status visitors.

Another achievement this quarter was the recently completed conservation assessment by conservator Susan Buck, a student in Historic Preservation at the University of Delaware. Scheduled for this weekend is a collection assessment by Rich McKinstry of Winterthur Museum. Upon completion these assessments will give both the Archives Committee and the town a better understanding of the collection. They will also provide a tremendous amount of leverage for future grant applications.

Acquisitions this quarter include a first edition Henry George cigar box and several pieces of ironwork from the Arden Forge. Thanks to Pat Phillips for these donations.

On a personal level, the most enjoyable project continues to be the on-going work with the Stephens' family archives. My thanks to Peg Aumack for allowing us to duplicate photos from this wonderful collection.

Respectfully submitted, Mark Taylor, chairperson

9. **Advisory Committee:** The members of the Advisory Committee met on January 6, 1997 to discuss the upcoming town meeting. Highlight of the meeting:

1. All members were reminded that nominations for all standing committees would be presented at the January Town Meeting.

2. Trustees' report included items relating to:

- a. Possible solutions to the drainage problem resulting from Buckingham Greene.
- b. Town Party set for March 9 to promote citizen participation in town government.
- c. Upcoming change in the town record-keeping system to a computerized system
- d. Land rents will go out before the end of February.

3. Community Planning committee is planning an in-depth presentation of the current status of their long-range planning efforts.

4. The reinvigoration of the Town Watch Program.

5. The boiler at the BWVC requires a \$2300 repair.

6. The meeting schedule for the Assessors.

7. Activities of the Archives Committee, including on-going collaboration with David Ames of the University of Delaware, the up-coming lecture by University of Pennsylvania professor George Thomas about the architecture of Will Price.

8. All committees were reminded that the three-year budget projection should be forwarded to the Budget Committee by the end of January.

Submitted by, Judy Butler, chairperson

Report approved.



- 10. Assessors:** Aaron Hamburger informed us of the three public meeting dates which are Jan. 29, May 5, June 3. All meetings are on Wednesday at 8 p.m. at the BWVC and the public is invited to come with questions and concerns.

Report approved.

- 11. Auditing Committee:** Ken Lipstein, chairperson, submitted his committees nominations which are Arthur Stevenson, Christine Demsey, Jim Southwell, and Neal VanDoren.

Report approved.

- 12. Budget Committee:** The Budget Committee needs to receive from each town committee by January 31, 1997 a three-year budget projection for their committees financial activities. This will be used by our committee to prepare the "Three-Year Budget Projection" which will be presented to the March town meeting. This projection is a planning document so detailed estimates for future projects will not be needed. However, the best estimate by each committee will help to make this a more accurate and useful planning document.

Our nominations are Larry Walker, Marianne Cinaglia, Tom Carr, Bill Busch, Rick Reynolds, Greg Walker, Stuart Slingwine.

Submitted by Larry C. Walker, chairperson

Report approved.

- 13. Buzz Ware Village Center Committee:**

**Building use**

A tally of building use since September is 40 meetings of committees (this includes ACRA). There also have been three films as part of our series, one private birthday party, and one play reading. We had announced a meeting with Georgina Diest and staff from Kamin at the September town meeting, but there were no attendees so Mary Brent Whipple and I had a most productive discussion with them as to possible ways to get more cooperation plus joint ventures with the residents of Kamin and the three Ardens.

We all felt this would be advantageous for all concerned. The campfire was rained out. Next year we will plan better to cover such conditions.

The McKinneys have had very successfully presented a variety of monthly concert: the Alaskan folk singers, a classical guitar concert by Lisa Hurlong, Russ McKinney did songs and poems of protest, and Keith Marceski gave a concert of classic songs of the 60s and 70s. These concerts are events to which admission is charged and a rental fee is paid to BWVC.

Other regular rentals are: monthly meetings of the Stagehands' Union and of course, the YMCA Before and After School program, and Hand-in-Hand Child Care Center. Hand-in-Hand is doing well, enrollment is up, but they do have a few openings at each age level. They again signed a one-year contract, but we hope next year to work out a longer term period. We are grateful to them for very cooperative about having events take place in their rooms in the evenings. The YMCA programs appear to be going well.

**Upcoming events**

Upcoming events are Valentine Extravaganza on Sunday, Feb. 9, from 2 p.m.—4 p.m. A film on Feb. 15 at 7:30 p.m. after the Gild Hall dinner and a play reading on Feb. 22 at the Butlers' home. The Annual Sunshine Sale will be in March this year. Please save your "white elephants" to bring to this annual event which supports a very worth cause.

We welcome suggestions and ideas for programming. A reminder, also, to call Debby Theis well in advance of meetings and please make sure heat and electricity is down before your leave. Please notice and use our new coat rack!

### **Maintenance**

The regular small maintenance has been taken care of by Mark Taylor, a big thank you to him. We had an emergency just before New Year's. One of our boilers sprang a small leak and was badly rusted. Burns & McBride advised us to replace it before it bursts. After a variety of phone call, Mark was able to get a good deal from a reputable plumber to rebuild it (if we replaced it we would have had to replace the whole system.). We had it repaired at a cost of \$2,064.00, which was under the estimate of \$2,300. Fortunately the plumber was willing to work over a weekend and so the Hand-in-Hand and YMCA program children were not without heat.

Since this was an emergency, we could not wait to have it approved tonight. There are a few more repairs planned for the roof and gutters, which will come to around \$300.

### **Vandalism**

We had an incident of vandalism and a break-in in early fall. Spray-painted rude comments and numbers were all over the rocks and on pathways. The building was broken into (room 3 doors), and luckily there was no vandalizing in the building-just some items stolen. We reported it to the police, have heard no more about it and once again are grateful to Mark for removing all the paint. We ask that everyone become part of Town Watch as you walk around and report anything suspicious or unusual at the building or around it.

### **Committee membership**

Three committee positions are up for election: Debby Theis, Dale Levin and myself. Dale and I are not running again, so our nominees are Debbie Theis, Tom Wheeler (who has been a valuable non-voting member for most of this year), Mary Marconi, Ellen Dolmetsch, Rick Reynolds and Carol Page. I hope to continue to work with the committee in programming, senior affairs and to as transition for a new committee.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Bean, chairperson

Report approved.

### **14. Civic Committee:** Spending on tree work has been much higher than normal this year.

This is in spite of our practice of leaving trees that fall in the woods where they fall unless they represent a hazard or block a path. A good many trees have represented a hazard to leaseholds, have threatened to block Naamans Creek, or like the thirty-foot high oak stump in the Memorial Garden, it's time had come. Among the annoyance was a letter from a homeowner in Buckingham Greene stating that one of our oaks was threatening their property and, if it caused damage, we would be responsible. This tree on the edge of our Sherwood Forest next to which they built their home is being removed to accommodate them.

The Planning Committee is preparing a comprehensive program of identifying what is needed to preserve and improve our physical village. The Civic Committee is taking part in this effort. Coincidentally we are submitting a proposed three-year committee budget with only minor increases in spending. This budget is flexible enough to permit doing a modest amount of the work that is recommended in this study in the next three years. In the coming years, we plan to have re-surveyed much of the boundary separating our Sherwood Forest from Sunset Farms and Ardencroft. There is thought to be some amount of encroachment into the woods from neighboring residents.

The planned improvements to the paved section of the Fire Lane beginning on Marsh Road is to be started in the spring. This work is covered by a DOT grant for capital improve-



*Civic Committee continued*

ment. It amounts to \$6000. We received 10% when it was approved and the balance when we send evidence that the contract has been awarded. We will shortly meet with the residents of the four leaseholds involved to solicit their opinions and wishes. Among the possibilities are: improving the road base; repaving; widening the entrance apron; replacing the existing homemade gutters with properly sloped standard concrete gutters; petitioning the post office to deliver to each leasehold rather than just to Marsh Road; and possibly renaming this lane.

Nominations are incumbents Lynne Svenning, Rodney Jester, Aaron Hamburger, new candidates Rick Rothrock, John Reilly, Walter Broadbent.

Submitted by Lou Bean, chairperson

**Discussion:** Are you planning to enlarge the fire lane or expand into the woods? The lane will be enlarged a little bit, no plan to go further into the woods. The post office truck needs space to turnaround.

Report approved.

- 15. Community Planning Committee:** One year ago, this Assembly agreed to participate in the formation of a long range plan for the physical future of the Village—both within Arden and as we are impacted from without—as well as the cultural future. Tonight we wish to present a status report on that long range plan.

**Physical future of the village**

Arden Green, Sherwood Green, Memorial Garden, Stile Garden. We have contracted with Rodney Robinson to do the initial assessment of the public open spaces. His assessment will note semi-permanent features such as paths, benches, etc. To make that assessment and to avail him of the thoughts from the residents, we had a walk around Arden on January 18. He will give us a base sheet drawn on mylar and a formal proposal which we will bring to the March town Meeting. We are also sponsoring a workshop on Feb., 1997 on the subject.

**Forest Stewardship update**

**Background:** Arden loves the forests. Seminars and workshops have documented the deterioration of the forests from water erosion and the creep of ivy from leaseholds. We want a plan to preserve the forests for the next generations.

**Plan:** Two parts are inventory of all the features of the forest, and management of those features. Two approaches are academic, a breaking into parts, and holistic, a putting of the parts back together.

**Structure:** Questions will be answered regarding the land, geology, ecology, anthropology, and aesthetics.

**The Naamans Creek Watershed Association**

Many communities upstream and downstream are now involved: Lancashire, Arden, Claymont, Ardentown, Radnor Green, Indian Field, Log Run. The creek cleanup will be a joint effort this year on April 12. The Web Site is up-and-running.

The next steps are organizational. Help is available from nearby successful watershed organizations on how to go about this.

**Buffer lands**

The Buffer Lands are those areas outside the three villages which are not developed, and are in a relatively natural state. Bring to your attention tonight the 5 acre Avery Property just

*Community Planning Committee continued*

beyond the water tower, and the New Castle County island of 9 properties in the midst of the Ardens. Our desire is to keep these as wooded areas.

**Harvey Road traffic**

The goals are to reduce speed and traffic volume. Progress to-date includes the Drive Twenty-Five campaign, the State Police spot speed checks, and the installation of the Street Print test paving. We have also written a grant request for landscape design on Harvey Road for traffic calming. The grant is rated too low by DelDOT to secure funding as a Transportation Enhancement project. Therefore, I have submitted it to WILMAPCO as a member agency special study. If this doesn't work, other funding options include the DelDOT "pipeline process" and normal planning budget.

Also in progress are my participation on DelDOT's Traffic Calming Work Group, and a joint Arden Safety and Planning Committee Workshop on Harvey Road at the Village Center, February 13 at 7:30 PM. We all have an interest in establishing Harvey as a road with safe driving patterns before the impact of increased traffic from the mega-mall and Balleymeade.

**Cultural future of the Village: Landmark Status**

What does it mean for the Ardens? It is an honor recognizing our role in American history as the last surviving, thriving utopian community. It is different from National Register Listing, which Arden now has, in selectivity. Only 2% of National Register Listings are Landmarks.

The advantages to the Ardens are civic pride, enhanced protection by annual Congressional Review of Landmarks, the possible inclusion of Ardencroft and Ardentown, and enhanced recognition for the Centennial. The possible disadvantages are the necessity of stronger documentation, the challenge to our economic diversity, and tourism.

The challenge for us is to gain recognition for our relationship to the land and to each other—our culture. Normally landmark status is given for an historically intact structure. The process of application will take a few years, and involve high quality scholarly research.

**Arden as an artistic Community**

Last year at this time, the Planning committee was given the "go ahead" to consider the cultural future of Arden. As part of this activity, Community Planning was interested in an inventory of artists that we compiled in the early 1990s by the Archives Committee at that time. We wondered if it might be possible to update this inventory and expand the scope of this effort with the help of grant money. The Delaware Division of the Arts has a grant category called Special Ventures which could apply to Arden by documenting the history of the arts in Arden, the current status of the arts in Arden, and what we need to do to encourage the arts in the future. This would tie in with Arden's Centennial as well as provide documentation needed for achieving landmark Status. The Delaware Heritage Commission and the Historical Society of Delaware will also be approached for funding research on the history of the arts in Arden. At this point the Planning Committee is requesting ideas and participation (please see the announcement in the Arden Page's February edition), and plans a meeting to explore the best way to proceed with these options. The meeting will be held on Feb. 4 at 7:30 p.m. at the BWVC and we encourage interested people to attend.

Submitted by Mary Brent Whipple



*Community Planning Committee continued***Memorial Garden**

In the fall we hired a horticulturist Dan Bernacik to plant some low shrubs with winter interest at the end of pool and near the bridge. These shrubs also provide food for song birds. Two hollies were planted along the pool fence, a donation from Marion Bloch's family in her memory. We replaced two weeping cherries which had to be cut down due to age. The area along the cistern was also worked on, as was some pruning on a rare and beautiful weeping hemlock. No future planting until the overall recommendations are made by Rodney Robinson, landscape architect.

The map of Memorial Garden is being updated by Ed Rohrbach and we should soon have it. The list of graves and next-of-kin is also being put on computer.

I would like to plan a short history of the Memorial Garden and would welcome any history which people could share with me.

The annual clean-up will be on Saturday, April 19 with rain date on April 20. The Wilmington Garden Tour will visit the Memorial Garden on May 3.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Bean, Memorial Garden overseer

**Parking Task Force**

The task force looking at parking problems has met with the Arden Club, the Civic Committee, and the Safety Committee. They are planning further meetings and welcome comments from residents.

**Candidates** for March 1997 election are Beverly Barnett\*, Larry Strange\*, John Reilly\*, Rachel Grier, Ed Rohrbach, Elizabeth Varley, and Marc Shule.

\*Incumbent

A slide show was presented by the following speakers on various topics:

Elizabeth Varley spoke about the progress of the Common Land Assessment.

John Reilly spoke on the Forest Stewardship Plan.

Larry Strange spoke on the progress of the Naamans Creek Watershed Association.

Lynda Kolski updated us on the Avery Task Force.

Mary Brent Whipple reported on the status of the artist's list

Ruth Bean gave a report on the Memorial Garden..

Task Force on Parking: Attending that meeting were representatives from Arden Club, Civic, Safety and the BWVC.

Bev Barnett spoke of the overall issues and Harvey Road/DelDot problems and the Landmark Status inquiry.

**Discussion:** Delivery of "How the Town Works" on Harvey Road is difficult for a pedestrian. Harvey Road isolates those leaseholders on it. Could be extend Harvey Road walkways back. Corners of Arden streets getting deteriorated. Grid blocks were prevent this actually stops the rutting. It is an old ideas, but a good idea. Landmark Status could make us a tourist attraction. Can limit to scholars and publicize. Was Arden true to its original intent. We have made compromises. We should have a debate on it. We mention support of economic diversity but if property values go up, people will be excluded. Does Arden want economic diversity. Does Landmark Status jeopardize our self-built homes. **Response:**



*Community Planning Committee continued*

Our Landmark Status would be for our cultural landscape, not architectural.

Report approved.

**Motion:** Village of Arden authorize the Arden Community Planning Committee to develop an application for Landmark Status which includes Ardentown and Ardencroft.

**Discussion after second:** Could create Arden Foundation for 501 C3. Would there be legal fees. It would take about 1 and half years of study before the "status" could be approved. When the vote comes for acceptance of Landmark Status, a majority vote must be cast in the Town Assembly.

Motion approved.

**Ad Hoc Committee to Research Funding Resources**

The Advisory Committee has established an ad hoc committee to research methods of funding both short and long-term projects that may be of interest to the village. The committee will make its report at the June Town Assembly. The members are Hugh Roberts convener and elected chair, Ken Lipstein, Alton Dahl, Lynda Kolski and Tom Wheeler. Any resident interested in helping us is welcome. The committee has met and has developed and assigned research areas. The areas are grants, bond issues, endowments, corporate giving and expansion of the trust and government funding.

Submitted by Hugh Roberts, chairperson

Report approved.

- 16. Legislative Reference Committee:** The village of Arden Handbook has been delivered to households of the village. We have met and determined that most residents have received their copies and those that were missed were to be delivered. The town secretary has included our committee on the list of new residents so that we can be sure that new households receive a copy. We have worked out communications methods with the trustees to be able to deliver the book as soon as possible to a new leaseholder. The committee will look into a method of suggesting the format for all new and revision to ordinances.

Nominations for committee members are John Stevenson, Maria Walker, Mary McKean and Mary Anne McClemons, Hugh Roberts, and Brooke Bovard

Submitted by Hugh Roberts, chairperson

Report approved.

- 17. Playground Committee:** With the purchase of a half-bucket child's seat for the lower Arden Green and hanger parts (10 bearing, 6 bolts and 8 pendulums), as stockpile for future repairs to swings on Sherwood Green, we have depleted our current budget. The Planning Committee has suggested that action the flagpole be delayed until the landscape survey has been completed. We are also open for other suggestions. The three current committee members who are up for re-election are Larry Walker, Mary Vernon, and Evelyn Knotts. All have agreed to run again. In addition, we would like to add the name of Walter Borders. He has shown an interest in our work and would be good addition to the committee when elected, if not now, at least in the future.

For the committee, Richard Bloom, chairperson

Report approved.

**18. Registration Committee:** The number of eligible voters is 397. Nominations for the registration committee are Sharon Kleban (running for re-election), Jennifer Borders, Joyce Bloom and Tissa Harold-Price.

Submitted by Elizabeth Varley, chairperson

Report approved.

**19. Safety Committee:** Of late, our emphasis has been on the Community Watch, which the committee supervised. We felt it was time to survey the three Arden and get a sense of the people on the watch. In the next Arden Page, there will be a cover letter from the Safety Committee along with a survey regarding the program (see "The Three Ardens Community Watch Survey"). Some of you may have picked up a copy of the survey on your way in tonight. Please feel free to fill it out and, if you say you do a watch, remember to put your name and phone number at the bottom. The Watch is in operation but, quite frankly participation levels are down in recent months. Our goal is to assist our coordinator, Kate Bartolo, in defining the interest of residents and, hopefully, create an expanded volunteer list. At the next town meeting, we will report on the survey results.

Safety and Community Planning will be holding a meeting regarding the Harvey Road situation on Feb. 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the BWVC. If you are as concerned about the present traffic and speed and the anticipated increase of both, please attend with ideas.

Nominations are Steve Harcourt, Phil Fisher, Bill Theis

Respectfully submitted, Tim Colgan, chairperson.

Report approved.

### THE THREE ARDENS COMMUNITY WATCH SURVEY

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS YOU WISH AND RETURN IT TO ANY ARDEN SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBER LISTED BELOW. YOU MAY MAIL IT, DELIVER IT, OR CALL US TO PICK IT UP. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR TIME.

TIM COLGAN	1704 GREEN LANE	475-0243
ED KELLY	1801 GREEN LANE	475-8861
A. BARNES KING	2100 HARVEY ROAD	475-7812
ELIOT LEVIN	1808 POND LANE	475-7367

- 1) HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED IN A SCHEDULED WATCH? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) HAVE YOU EVER BEEN CALLED TO DO A WATCH? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) DO YOU FEEL WE NEED A COMMUNITY WATCH PROGRAM? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) IF YOU ANSWERED YES ABOVE, WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) YOU WOULD BE WILLING TO PATROL ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS / TIMES:
 

WEEKENDS	YES _____	NO _____
MON. - THURS.	YES _____	NO _____
EVENINGS	YES _____	NO _____
- 6) HOW MANY TIMES PER YEAR WOULD YOU DO A WATCH? (A WATCH IS FOUR PATROLS PER PERSON) \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) IF YOU BELIEVE THE WATCH IS NECESSARY BUT YOU FEEL YOU CANNOT PARTICIPATE, PLEASE CHECK REASON:
 

CHILD CARE	_____
SCHEDULE	_____
NO PARTNER	_____
NOT INTERESTED	_____
OTHER	_____
- 8) IF ANY OF THE ABOVE OBSTACLES CHECKED COULD BE ELIMINATED, WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO PATROL? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) HOW CAN WE IMPROVE OUR WATCH PROGRAM? \_\_\_\_\_

**20. Welcome Hither:** No report.

**21. Old business:** none

**2. New business:** A resident made us aware of plans of the Delaware Solid Waste Authority to get another incinerator at Pigeon Point. In 1984, the original incinerator ran for two years before it had to be closed down. Hundreds of millions of dollars of public and private funds were lost. He proposed a resolution from the Town Assembly expressing their disapproval of the plans.

**Resolution:** The Town Assembly of the Village of Arden requests the Delaware Solid Waste Authority to remove incineration from its long-term plans and to base waste management on recycling.

Seconded.

**Discussion:** We do not have enough information to support this resolution. It is an issue of health versus cost. Dioxin is emitted from the incineration process. The process also disrupts hormones. A lot has been learned since the incinerator was first built. If we support this resolution, we are saying unrecyclables will go to landfills.

**Amendment proposed:** The Town Assembly of the Village of Arden requests the Delaware Solid Waste Authority [to the extent possible] remove incineration from its long-term plans and to base waste management on recycling.

Seconded.

Vote: Nos approved

**Motion to table.** 26 for tabling; 15 against. Motion to table approved.

**23. Centennial Committee:** Bill Press informed the Town Assembly that the committee would Wait until February to meet.

**24. Good and Welfare:** Judy Butler volunteered to help increase support for passage of the earlier resolution on reducing incineration solution at the Delaware Waste Authority.

Liz Resko informed us of a discussion group held at her home on economic trends.

Bill Press thanked the meeting attendees for coming and commented on the large turnout.

Naomi Clark updated us on the condition of Eleanor Bratten at Delaware Division .

Meeting adjourned.

Next town meeting: **Monday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,



Connee Wright McKinney  
Secretary, Village of Arden



Village of Arden  
2300 Cherry Lane  
Arden, DE 19810-4002

Dated material enclosed

- Notice of Town Meeting
- Minutes from preceding Town Meeting